



Maricopa County Board of Supervisors

News Release

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Don Stapley, Dist 2
Chairman
Fulton Brock, Dist 1
Andy Kunasek, Dist 3
Max Wilson, Dist 4
Mary Rose Wilcox, Dist 5

Maricopa County Board of Supervisors Passes Noise Ordinance

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors voted 5 – 0 to pass a Noise Ordinance. The ordinance is applicable to unincorporated areas of Maricopa County and includes definitions of unlawful noises, exemptions, enforcement and penalties.

Last year, when Supervisor Max Wilson, District 4, was chairman, he directed Maricopa County Planning and Zoning staff to draft a Noise Ordinance for unincorporated Maricopa County. “This is a good start in addressing quality of life issues for the neighborhoods of unincorporated Maricopa County. As this county continues to grow, we are faced with a more urbanized setting for most residents.”

After extensive research, an ordinance was presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Various sources of noise were identified, including mufflers, horns and engine- revving in motor vehicles, as well as radios, loudspeakers and musical instruments.

Exemptions include noise emanating from aircraft and airports, emergency vehicles and customary noise that is not amplified from daycare facilities and schools. Also exempt are lawful pickets, marches and parades, lawful motor vehicle racing facilities, farm equipment and chimes--at a minimum of three minutes per hour. Animal noises also remain exempt.

Violators can be charged up to \$750, depending on the number of citations received. The purpose of the ordinance is to protect the health and welfare of Maricopa County citizens.

Chairman Don Stapley, District 2, says, “Noise above certain levels is detrimental to the health and welfare of Maricopa County citizens, so it is in our best interest to control noise. In addition, controlled noise promotes commerce and environmental quality.”